Graduated Food Docket
FOR Dochets Mursgment

6311 Wilson Lane Bethesda, MD 20817 March 11, 1999 48 3 7 '99 APR 22 A9:30

Commissioner Jane E. Henney FDA (HFE-88) 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD

Dear Commissioner Jane E. Henney,

I am for the FDA approval for the irradiation of foods. It kills bacteria and poses no threat to human heath. Irradiation only makes food safer and healthier. This is a big change in food safety. Here are some reasons why food irradiation is a very good thing.

Irradiation makes food safer and healthier to humans. <u>USA WEEKEND</u> says that irradiation stops the growth of bugs and bacteria like E.coli in beef and tapeworms in pork. Not only does it stop the growth of these things but kills them off completely. This is how the food becomes safer and healthier by being irradiated.

In addition to safer and healthier food the shelf life of the food is extended by years. <u>USA WEEKEND</u> said that you could by a precooked chicken that had been irradiated and after two years all you would have to do is heat it up and enjoy. It sounds gross but it's true! Art Ginsberg, a trained butcher, says he can't tell the difference between irradiated and non-irradiated that if anything the irradiated meat looked healthier.

Not only does irradiated meat do all of the above but it doesn't coast that much more to have this procedure done. <u>USA WEEKEND</u> says that it will only coast five to seven cents extra. That means if you buy one-hundredfifty pounds of meat a year then it will only coast \$7.50 extra. Now that's cheap! Dennis McCaffy said, "I'd be willing to pay that much for safer food."

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In conclusion, irradiated meat is safer, healthier, and a whole lot better. I think if a trained cook can't tell the difference between the two meats then it can't be that bad. On the other side I think if meat is irradiated it should be labeled and it shouldn't be sold until the formula is 100% pure.

Sincerely,

Victor M. Kane

6311 Wilsom Lane Bethesda, MD 20817





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